testosterone levels with ageing. These changes are quite subtle.

**Money spent on purchase of Spongestone Gels**

3280. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of money has been spent for the purchase of spongestone gels and they are lying unused; and

(b) whether any action has been taken against the persons who are responsible for such purchase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) There is no report of excess purchase of songestonegel from any of the Government Hospitals in Delhi except G.B. Pant Hospital. The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has informed that the matter has been referred to an 'Expert Committee' for investigation.

**Menace of Quacks**

3281. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent survey, nearly 33% of the total medical practitioners in the National Capital have been found to be quacks; number of such quacks all over the country;

(b) effective steps taken by the Government to check the growing menance of quacks practitioners in Allopathic medicine in the country;

(c) whether Government propose to enact a low to prohibit and punish such persons; and

(d) whether Registered Medical Practitioners (RMP) cartificates are being awarded by fictitious and unqualified institutions operating from motor garages, if so, the action taken against such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No such survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(b) and (c) Penel provisions already exist in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 as well as in the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to the effect that no person other than a medical practitioner enrolled on the State Medical Register shall practice medicine in any State and any person contravening this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with find which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both. The Government of India had advised the State Governments/U.Ts. to take action against unqualified practitioners.

(d) No information about institutions operating from motor garages has been received.

**Development of an Error free Method to Detect AIDS**

3282. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India have developed an error-free method to detect the deadly AIDS virus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has been patented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) An